

Community College Fact Sheet

Academic Year 2005-2006

Tuition and Fees Report Executive Summary

The community college tuition and fees report is prepared each fall. The report includes trends among the 15 community colleges as well as comparisons to the Iowa regents institutions and national comparisons. Some findings in the report include the following:

- The average annual full-time Iowa Community College tuition increased \$1,272 or 77.37% from fiscal year 1997 to fiscal year 2006.
- The average annual full-time Iowa Community College tuition for academic year 2005-2006 increased \$162 (5.89%) to \$2,916 from the previous year.
- The difference in annual tuition cost among Iowa Community Colleges decreased from \$600.00 in 1997 to \$450.00 in 2006.
- Over the past seven years, the average per credit hour fee* rate has increased \$106.07.
- In fiscal year 2006, the average total fees* charged a full-time student (15 credit hours) is \$412.15.
- The average tuition and fees* per credit hour for fiscal year 2006 totaled \$106.36.
- Fees* can be a substantial part of the cost at a community college. The total cost of fees* range from community colleges that do not charge fees* separately to a high fee charge of \$675.00. Average fees* charged equaled \$412.15 or 12.38% of the average tuition and fees* charged.
- In 1980, tuition and fees generated 24.39% of the total operating funds of Iowa Community Colleges. In fiscal year 2005, 49.27% of the total operating funds of Iowa Community Colleges was generated through tuition and fees.
- *The Chronicle of Higher Education Almanac Issue 2005-2006* cites Iowa Community College average tuition at 60.84% above the national average.
- Iowa ranks 3rd highest in tuition when compared to the surrounding states of South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas.
- The average community college credit hour tuition rate in fiscal year 2006 is \$97.20, ranging from a low of \$90.00 per credit hour to a high of \$105.00 per credit hour. The increase in the credit hour tuition ranges from 3.09% to 8.79%; the state average rate of increase in community college semester tuition is 5.89% over the previous year.

* Fees are calculated based on the 10 Community Colleges that charge separate fees, and not the total of all 15 Community Colleges